WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A bioabsorbable tissue tack for sutureless fixation of soft tissue to bone, comprising:

a cannulated, non-expandable shaft having a distal end and a proximal end;

a plurality of ribs formed circumferentially on the cannulated shaft and extending at least partially around the cannulated shaft; and

a cannulated, longitudinally oblong head, as viewed along a central axis of the shaft, disposed on the proximal end of the shaft.

2. The bioabsorbable tissue tack according to claim 1, wherein the oblong head is disposed at an angle perpendicular to the central axis of the cannulated shaft.

3. The bioabsorbable tissue tack according to claim 1, wherein the oblong head is disposed at a non-perpendicular angle to the central axis of the cannulated shaft.

4. The bioabsorbable tissue tack according to claim 1, further comprising at least two barbs disposed on the head, at least one barb disposed at each longitudinal end of the oblong head, the barbs having respective pointed tips extending toward the distal end of the shaft for engaging the soft tissue upon insertion of the tack into bone.

5. The bioabsorbable tissue tack according to claim 1, wherein the ribs have a truncated conical shape with a surface sloped at an angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the tack, the ribs have a major diameter greater than the diameter of the shaft of the tack, and the slots formed in the ribs do not extend into the shaft.

6. The bioabsorbable tissue tack according to claim 1, wherein a slot is formed in each of the ribs, such that the ribs extend less than completely circumferentially around the shaft of the tack, and slots in adjacent ribs are circumferentially offset.

7. A bioabsorbable tissue tack for sutureless fixation of soft tissue to bone, comprising:
a cannulated shaft having a distal end and a proximal end;
a plurality of ribs formed on the cannulated shaft and extending at least partially circumferentially around the cannulated shaft; and
a cannulated oblong head disposed on the proximal end of the shaft.

8. A method for sutureless fixation of tissue to bone using a bioabsorbable tissue tack having a cannulated, non-expandable shaft with a distal end and a proximal end, at least one rib formed on the cannulated shaft, and a cannulated, longitudinally oblong head as viewed along a central axis of the tack disposed on the proximal end of the shaft, the method comprising the steps of:
forming a hole in the bone; and
installing the bioabsorbable tissue tack through the tissue and into the hole in the bone, wherein the tissue tack is secured in the hole by engagement of the at least one slotted rib without any expansion of the shaft, and wherein the tissue is fixed against the bone by the cannulated, longitudinally oblong head of the tissue tack.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of installing the bioabsorbable tissue tack includes the steps of positioning a guide wire in the hole in the bone, disposing the cannulated shaft of the tissue tack over the guide wire, and advancing the tissue tack along the guide wire into the hole in the bone.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the bone is a glenoid rim, and the method further comprises the step of aligning the oblong head along the glenoid rim.